

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1-4 are pending. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent 6,175,550 (Van Nee). Applicant traverses and submits that independent claim 1 is patentable for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a multi-rate transmission apparatus in which a coding ratio is varied in accordance with an input modulation operation mode to allow a transmission operation with a single input clock signal in accordance with the input modulation mode. The apparatus comprises: data processing means for reading in data having a bit width suitable for a modulation system corresponding to the input modulation mode, coding means for performing coding processing parallelly for the data read in by the data processing means, and transmission means for transmitting the data, for which the coding processing has been performed, in accordance with the modulation system and the varied coding ratio.

As a result of the recited structure, on the basis of a single input clock and an input modulation mode, data can be transmitted, in accordance with the input modulation mode, even if the coding rate is varied. Thus, even if the modulation system or the coding rate is varied to raise the data transfer rate, circuit operation and transmission operation can be performed always with a single clock signal without the necessity of varying the internal clock signal. See specification at page 3, lines 19-25.

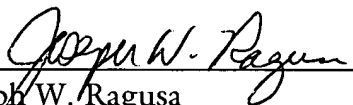
On the other hand, in Van Nee, the control circuitry 15 scales operating parameters, such as the transmission rate, *by controlling the clock 17 to adjust the time base* to the IFFT 16. This is not the same as the invention defined in claim 1 in which a single clock is used without varying the clock signal. For at least this reason, claim 1 is believed clearly to be distinguished over Van Nee and patentable thereover.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from independent claim 1 discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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